

April 11, 2011
8:30 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

The Business License/Room Tax Review Task Force for the City of Newport met on the above date in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Rob Oberbillig, Art Moore, Steve Beck, Lee Hardy, Mike Schulz, Patti Cauduro, Linda Neigebauer, Mark McConnell, Patricia Patrick-Joling and Lon Brusselback.

Staff present was City Manager Voetberg, City Recorder Hawker, and Finance Director David Marshall.

REVIEW OF REVISED DRAFT OF BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE

Hardy distributed a handout. The Task Force reviewed the revised draft of the business license ordinance. A discussion ensued regarding third party liability and its fairness. Additional discussion ensued regarding the gaming table fees. It was the consensus of the Task Force that the goal was to forward a revised ordinance to the City Council that is fair, equitable, and enforceable. Beck recommended that the third party liability requirement be eliminated from the ordinance. Cauduro suggested reducing the fees for gaming tables. It was suggested that the fees be removed from the ordinance and replaced with a statement that provides that the fees be established by City Council resolution. A discussion ensued regarding staggered business license terms. Beck suggested an amnesty period so that folks could acquire a business license without punishment for not having had one. It was noted that education is critical to compliance and enforcement. It was agreed that once the business license ordinance draft is finalized, it will be sent to legal counsel for review with the specific question regarding third party liability and whether it can be eliminated from the ordinance.

Neigebauer posed many questions regarding fairness for organizations that currently have one license for several vendors, i.e., farmer's markets, etc. It was suggested that input be sought from businesses such as the antique mall and other similar businesses.

INTRODUCTION TO TRANSIENT ROOM TAX ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Hardy suggested that this discussion begin next week with the stated purpose of the transient room tax ordinance.

TASK FORCE COMMENTS

Discussion ensued regarding what will be needed to implement the business license ordinance. There was also a discussion regarding including space on the business license application for documentation of legal status, i.e., proof of real estate license, etc.

DEVELOP THE NEXT AGENDA

It was agreed that the next agenda would include the introduction to the transient room tax ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 A.M.